



Miracle League of the South Hills Training Manual

Buddy Training Manual



The Miracle League of the South Hills Mission

- To provide every child and adult, the opportunity to play baseball
- To promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for all
- To foster peer relationships through player and "buddy" interactions, so that barriers to friendship and opportunity are removed



Buddy Video



www.miracleleagueofthesouthhills.org

What is a Miracle League Buddy

Miracle League Buddies are assigned a player for each game. The buddy is there for the players safety, assist the player in batting and running the bases (if needed), and to be a friend on and off the field.

Buddies need to be at least 12 years old to participate. Adult buddies are welcome and needed!



What is the Idea behind the Buddy Program

Being a buddy allows parents, children, and volunteers to come together to help individuals with special needs play the game of baseball. Buddies and players learn valuable skills like patience, understanding, and compassion. Being a buddy requires someone who is committed to the program just as if they were signing up to play for a team.

Buddies allow the parents of the player to be able to sit back, relax, and enjoy watching the game.



What is the Idea behind the Buddy Program

- Build community
- Build new friendships
- To give back to the community
- To help players get a chance to do something they may not otherwise be able to do
- To build relationships that continue after baseball and into the school year



What is Required of the Buddy

Characteristics that describe a buddy include:

- Energetic
- Committed
- Consistent
- Friendly
- Responsible
- Outgoing
- Punctual

[Review the Buddy Code of Conduct Here](#)



What are a Buddies Expectations on Game Day

- Introduce yourself to the player's family
 - The more engaged and the more you know about your player, the better you can assist them
- Keep the player safe
- Assist the player with their needs
 - All players are different. Some need more help than others.
- Arrive 15-20 minutes early to the game
- Check in with your coach and get assigned a player
- Stay with that player from the beginning until they are back with their parent or guardian
- Notify the coaches if you can't make a game
- Be properly dressed in your Buddy Tee Shirt
- Use positive words
- Arrive on time
- Wear sneakers
 - (no cleats or flip flops)
- Build their confidence
- Demonstrate high morals and integrity on and off the field
- Make sure the player stay hydrated
- Make sure the player is having fun
- Come prepared with a smile and great attitude
- Give high fives, hugs, and show them that you are proud of them during and after your game

What If There Are More Buddies Than Players

This happens a lot! We would rather have too many buddies than not enough. Buddies who aren't assigned to a specific player can:

- Double up with a player
- Become the first base, second base, or third base coaches
 - High five the players as they run
 - Direct them to the next base
 - Wave them home to score!
- Stand behind home plate and help keep the area clear of bats, balls, etc.
- See if the other team needs any extra buddies
- Ask your coach for a responsibility



How do I receive credit hours for volunteering?

At the end of a season, contact the executive director and he will write a letter stating the hours that you've volunteered. Make sure to sign in at the Buddy check-in table before every game so we have your hours documented.



Buddies should be positive T.E.A.M. Members

T - Treat everyone with respect

E - Everyone is important

A - Always try your best

M - Maintain a positive attitude



Video - Join Our Team

Play. Volunteer. Donate.

